—Intensive health education campaign undertaken on personal hygiene and environmental sanitation as well as for use of chlorine tablets and Oral Rehydration Salt (O.R.S.).

—Garbage heaps are being removed regularly and sewerlines/drains/pipes nallahs etc. maintained carefully.

—Official ban on sale of cut fruits is being implemented strictly.

Mass Copying in the CBSE Examinations

147. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was unprecedented mass copying in the examinations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education recently in which the invigilation staff was also involved;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to check such incidents in future and to ensure holding of the examinations properly?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) There was considerable mass copying in the 1991 examinations conducted by the CBSE in Delhi particularly at 20 examination centres where widespread use of unfair means was established. 107 candidates of the Senior Secondary Class and 6124 candidates of the Secondary Class were appearing in the examinations at those centres.

(c) The Government advised the Board to take stern measures including cancellation of examinations wherever required. Thereafter, the Board cancelled examinations at 20 examination centres at Delhi and conducted re-examination at those centres. The Board has also appointed an Enquiry Commission to go into the matter.

(d) In order to minimise the use of unfair means in examinations, both preventive and punitive measures are required. Preventive measures are primarily in the area of Examination. Reforms like continuous internal evaluation, mix of internal and external evaluation and giving credits for non-scholastic achievements so as to reduce the essentiality of good performance only in the final examinations. The Government has advised CBSE to strengthen the existing examination machinery and to enlist the active cooperation of law enforcement agencies of the States and the Union Territories with a view to ensure smooth conduct of examinations.

Literacy rate

148. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the States which, according to the provisional census 1991 have the lowest percentage of literacy stating the literacy rate in each of these States;

(b) by what percentage the projected rate of literacy in these States has fallen short;

(c) whether Government propose external funding for basic education in the country to achieve the goal of education for all;

(d) if so, the external organisations from which funds would be forthcoming stating the amount of assistance in each case; and

(e) what are the specific education projects for which the grants are proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the provisional results of 1991 census, Bihar has lowest literacy rate in the country.

(b) The literacy rate in Bihar is 38.54 per cent while the national average is 52.11 per cent.

(c) Government wishes to selectively tap external funds for "Education for all" projects in the educationally backward States.

(d) and (e) Andhra Pradesh Primary Education Project is under implementation with assistance from Overseas Development Agency (ODA) of United Kingdom. The ODA assistance for the period 1989-94 is of the order of £ 31.1 million. UNICEF pledged US $ 8 million from its general resources and to raise supplementary funds of US $ 100 million for the Bihar Education Project during the period 1991-95.

Effect on imports of curbs imposed by RBI

149. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the overall impact on imports due to the recent curbs recently imposed by the Reserve Bank of India on

(i) the raw material imports;

(ii) industrial production in the country;

(iii) export commitment;

(iv) implementation of new projects; and

(v) Balance of payment crisis;

(b) what are the circumstances that have led to imposition of these curbs on imports; and

(c) whether, in view of the experience gained, Government propose to reconsider the question afresh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) In order to moderate import growth and contain the outflow of foreign exchange reserves, the Reserve of India has in the recent past enhanced the cash margins/deposit requirements on imports other than import of capital goods, made imports of all capital goods possible only through lines of credit available with the financial institutions and imposed a 25 per cent interest surcharge on bank credit for imports. It is too early to assess the impact of these measures on overall imports.

(b) and (c) Restrictions on import financing had been necessitated by a very difficult and deteriorating external payments position and would be reviewed after there is an improvement in the balance of payments situation.

Employees representation in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

150. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan had in the 54th meeting of its Board of Governments decided in Principle to include employee's representatives on the Sangathan and its Board of Governors;

(b) whether the modalities thereof have been worked out;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether *ad hoc* nominations will be made pending finalisation of modalities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The suggestions from the various Service Associations of the Sangathan regarding modalities of employees